

# Test Your Knowledge!

The use of computers to maintain and exchange health care information is growing rapidly. Take a few minutes to test your knowledge of some of the common privacy, security, and other terms that are related to electronic health records.

**I. True or False.** Please indicate your response to each of the following items as T (True) or F (False):

- |  |          |          |
|--|----------|----------|
| 1. An electronic health record refers only to the records on each doctor's office computer.                                  | <b>T</b> | <b>F</b> |
| 2. There is a difference between security and privacy.   | <b>T</b> | <b>F</b> |
| 3. My health insurance company has access to my electronic health record.  | <b>T</b> | <b>F</b> |
| 4. I can decide who needs to have access to my electronic health record.   | <b>T</b> | <b>F</b> |
| 5. If my records contain information on substance abuse or mental health conditions, greater security measures will be used. | <b>T</b> | <b>F</b> |

**II. Multiple choice.** Please select appropriate answer.

1. The federal law that requires health information to be kept private and that makes sure health insurance will not stop when a person changes employers.
  - a. Health Information Portability and Accountability Act
  - b. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
  - c. Privacy Act of 1974
  - d. Confidentiality of Sensitive Information Act
2. Health information in any form that can reasonably be used to identify an individual.
  - a. Protected health information
  - b. Personal health information
  - c. Confidential health record
  - d. Secure health record
3. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability regulations provide the consumer with the right to:
  - a. Take their record wherever they want
  - b. View a parent's record
  - c. Edit their own record
  - d. Request a copy of their sibling's record
4. Examples of security safeguards include:
  - a. Passwords
  - b. Badges
  - c. User names
  - d. All of the above
5. The use of computers to move health information among organizations:
  - a. Health information exchange (network)
  - b. Health information organization
  - c. Regional health information organization
  - d. Health information audit trail

# Answer Key

## I. True or False

1. **False** – An electronic record can be created, managed, and consulted by authorized clinicians and staff **across more than one** health care organization.
2. **True** – Security is the **means** (way) to control access and protect information from disclosure. Privacy is the **right** of a person to control the disclosure of personal information.
3. **True – to an extent.** Insurance companies have no greater access to electronic information than to information stored on paper. Information that identifies you, as well as your diagnosis, procedures, medications, supplies used, and charges are examples of information needed by insurance companies.
4. **False** – As a patient you have access to your own health information. You may also give others authorization to access it. However, there are circumstances where your permission to access health information is not required. The HIPAA Privacy Rule requires that access to your health information be limited to the minimum amount a person needs to perform his/her job.
5. **True** – Federal and state laws provide for some additional protection for psychiatric and substance abuse records. In some cases providers must obtain your authorization to release this information. However, there are circumstances that allow health care providers to release this information without your authorization. You may request that your health care provider restrict access to any of your health information. However, providers are not required to agree to a request for restriction and in some cases are required to release information.

## II. Multiple Choice

1. **b** – Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
2. **a** – Protected health information
3. **a** – Take their record wherever they want
4. **d** – All of the above, passwords, badges, and user names are all examples of security safeguards
5. **a** – Health information exchange (network) is the use of computers to move health information among organizations